IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1 to 11 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please add new Claims 12 and 13 to read as follows.

Claims 1 to 11 (Cancelled).

12. (New) A method of driving a memory which has a plurality of variable resistors arrayed in a matrix, a plurality of switches connected to the plurality of variable resistors, and a plurality of bit lines arranged on respective rows of the matrix, one terminal of each variable resistor being connected to a corresponding bit line, and the other terminal being connected to a corresponding switch, comprising:

reading information of the bit lines; and

while reading information from a selected one of the bit lines, selectively keeping one of the plurality of variable resistors connected to the selected bit line.

13. (New) A method according to Claim 12, further comprising the step of, simultaneously with turning off one of the switches, turning on the switch corresponding to the variable resistor to be read next.